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Correspondence In Correspondence Out

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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Monday - 6 July 1964

Called Russ Blandford to remind him that Chairman Vinson had asked for a study of the comparable dependability on U. S. and Russian missiles to be ready by 15 July. I said we were getting the material ready and it would be a joint CIA-DOD presentation. Mr. Blandford said the Chairman was out of the city and would not return until the Congress reconvened on 20 July, and we could check with him again at that time. I said we would do so and that we would recommend an oral briefing by us and Defense. Mr. Blandford said he would so recommend to the Chairman.

As a result of our conversations with Army L&L regarding an inquiry from Senator Ralph Yarborough on the sources of weapons captured in Viet Nam, I visited with Senator Yarborough and discussed with him the results of a preliminary field study of the Viet Cong explosive ordnance published by ORR in June of this year. The Senator said a constituent had written to him on this subject and as a result of this inquiry he had also become interested generally. I gave the Senator the percentage figures by country of origin as listed in Table 2 of the study explaining that this was in effect a random sample, that these were based on a study in January and February of this year and that there were certain variables involved. The Senator expressed interest in the relatively low (10.5%) number of ChiCom weapons. In this regard, I explained that while we knew the Viet Cong had large inventories of ChiCom weapons, as of the date of this study, they had not appeared in large numbers.

Senator Yarborough appreciated this information and said he did not wish to press us for information as far as his constituent was concerned and it was agreed that I would work with his son, Richard Yarborough who is his Legislative Assistant, in preparing an appropriate response.



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